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13 June 1997

Dear Lieutenant General Wu,

You and six members of your armed forces are cordially invited to visit the United States Pacific Command in Hawaii to participate in a ten-day orientation. Suggested dates are 08-17 July 1997. Your visit will include events at the United States Pacific Command headquarters and component commands including units in California and Alaska.

One of my major objectives at U.S. Pacific Command is to promote defense relations between our two nations. My visit to China last September was a highlight of my tour. Your visit will be historic as it marks the first opportunity for USCINCPAC to host a counterpart from the People's Liberation Army. I look forward to returning the hospitality extended to my delegation last year.

I suggest that we consider four objectives for your visit. First, your trip provides an excellent opportunity to gain a better understanding of the United States Pacific Command organization, mission, and strategy. Our two militaries will have increasing interaction and contacts in the Asia Pacific region in coming years, and it is in our respective national interests for our leaders and operating forces to understand each other better. Second, given your interest in training doctrine and procedures, we will emphasize this theme when developing your itinerary. Third, we will provide ample time to informally exchange views on military relations and activities between USCINCPAC and the People's Liberation Army. We are most interested in your views. Fourth, we will ensure that your itinerary includes ample exposure to American society and culture.

Finally, as we begin planning for your visit, please feel free to convey your wishes to me through our Defense Attaché, Brigadier General Byrnes. I would also appreciate it if you would permit him to call on you prior to the visit to brief you on the arrangements. My staff will forward a proposed itinerary by separate correspondence.

We look forward to a successful and rewarding visit that will strengthen Sino-US military relations.

My best,

J.W. PRUEHER,
Admiral, U.S. Navy

Lieutenant General Wu Quanxu
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